

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/748,856

Examiner

Mila Airapetian

Applicant(s)

MANSTEIN ET AL.

Art Unit

3625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Examiner Amendment of June 8, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 19-73.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.


THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date June 1, 2007.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____


YOGESH C. GARG
PRIMARY EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Meredith on June 1, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Title:

New Title: Currency-Time Line Transaction System and Method.

In the Claims:

19. (currently amended) A computer implemented method for facilitating a trade over the Internet comprising the steps of:

receiving input from a ~~the~~ seller wherein said input includes a product, product information, a minimum price, a maximum price and a maximum time;

offering said product for sale wherein said offer for sale starts at said minimum price and said maximum time and displays a ~~the~~ current price and a ~~the~~ remaining time;

receiving at least one value offer for said product from at least one buyer, wherein said step of receiving at least one value offer is a first value offer;

Art Unit: 3625

displaying said first value offer;

accepting said first value offer when said first value offer results in a price greater than or equal to said minimum price and greater than or equal to said current price and results in time units to be purchased less than or equal to said remaining time; increasing said current price by a determined price amount and decreasing said remaining time by a determined time amount for each said first value offer that results in a price greater than said minimum price and greater than said current price and results in time units to be purchased less than or equal to said maximum time and less than or equal to said remaining time; and

displaying said first value offer as the current price and the remaining time.

28. (currently amended) A method as in claim 19, further comprising the step of:

displaying a ~~the~~ change in said current price.

29. (currently amended) A method as in claim 19, further comprising the step of:

displaying a ~~the~~ change in said remaining time.

37. (currently amended) An automated method, performed by a computer for facilitating a trade over the Internet comprising the steps of:

receiving input from a ~~the~~ seller wherein said information includes a product, product information, a minimum price, a maximum price and a maximum time;

Art Unit: 3625

creating a data record containing a description of said ~~the~~ product based upon input ~~from the~~ from said seller, said data record being associated with said ~~the~~ seller and being stored in a computerized electronic database;

generating an identification code to uniquely identify said product;

offering said product for sale through a worldwide web mapping module translating information from the data record to a language format for presentation through the Internet, wherein said offer for sale starts at said minimum price and said maximum time and displays a ~~the~~ current price and a ~~the~~ remaining time;

receiving at least one value offer for said product from at least one buyer, wherein said step of receiving at least one value offer is a first value offer;

displaying said first value offer;

accepting said first value offer when said first value offer results in a price greater than or equal to said minimum price and greater than or equal to said current price and results in time units to be purchased less than or equal to said remaining time and less than or equal to said maximum time;

increasing said current price by a determined price amount and decreasing said remaining time by a determined time amount for each said first value offer that results in a price greater than said minimum price and greater than said current price and results in time units to be purchased less than or equal to said remaining time and less or equal to than said maximum time; and

displaying said first value offer as the current price and the remaining time.

44. (currently amended) A method as in claim 37, further comprising the step of:

Art Unit: 3625

adjusting said remaining time according to ~~a~~ the determined time amount.

46. (currently amended) A method as in claim 37, further comprising the step of:

displaying ~~a~~ the change in said current price.

47. (currently amended) A method as in claim 37, further comprising the step of:

displaying ~~a~~ the change in said remaining time.

50. (currently amended) A method as in claim 37, wherein said value offers made on said product for sale can only be made by buyers who have registered to use ~~a~~ the sales function with which said value offers can be made.

55. (currently amended) A system for processing the sale of a good or service comprising:

a memory device;

a processor disposed in communication with said memory device wherein said the processor further comprises the ability to:

receive input from ~~a~~ the seller, said input including a product, product information, a minimum price, a maximum price and a maximum time;

offer said product for sale, wherein said offer for sale starts at said minimum price and said maximum time and displays ~~a~~ the current price and ~~a~~ the remaining time;

receive at least one value offer for said product from at least one buyer, wherein said step of receiving at least one value offer is a first value offer;

display said first value offer;

accept said first value offer when said first value offer results in a price greater than or equal to said minimum price and greater than or equal to said current

Art Unit: 3625

price and results in time units to be purchased less than or equal to said remaining time and less than or equal to said maximum time;

increase said current price by a determined price amount and decreasing said remaining time by a determined time amount for each said first value offer that results in a price greater than said minimum price and greater than said current price and results in time units to be purchased less or equal to said remaining time and less than or equal to said maximum time; and

display said first value offer as the current price and the remaining time.

64. (currently amended) A system as in claim 55, further comprising the ability of the processor to:

display a ~~the~~ change in said current price.

65. (currently amended) A system as in claim 55, further comprising the ability of the processor to:

display a ~~the~~ change in said remaining time.

Claims 1-18 are cancelled.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 19

The prior art of record neither anticipates nor fairly and reasonably teaches increasing current price by a determined price amount and decreasing remaining time by a determined time amount for each value offer that results in a price greater than minimum price and greater than current price and results in time units to be purchased less than or equal to maximum time and less than or equal to remaining time.

Regarding claims 37, 55

Claims 37 and 55 are each parallel in subject matter to the feature noted above with respect to claim 19 and are allowable for reasons similar to those provided for claim 19.

The most remarkable prior art of record is to Lane et al. (US PGPub. 2002/0107777) and La Mura et al. (US PGPub. 2006/0047581).

Although Lane et al. disclosed many features similar to those recited in the above-indicated claims, Lane et al. still fails to teach the above-noted features in the above-noted claims.

La Mura et al. discloses enhanced auction mechanism for online transactions wherein the relationship between the bid price and time is displayed.

It is clear from the description of La Mura et al. that the prior art does not consider the possibility of increasing current price by a determined price amount and decreasing remaining time by a determined time amount for each value offer that results

Art Unit: 3625

in a price greater than minimum price and greater than current price and results in time units to be purchased less than or equal to maximum time and less than or equal to remaining time, as recited in the independent claims 19, 37 and 55.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

(i) US 2006/0190352 to Zeldman teaches a method for providing history data to sellers about Internet auction and marketplaces wherein data including highest, lowest, and average values for the sale price, the auction length of time is presented to the seller.

(ii) WO 03/063036 to Sung-Min teaches an auction method for real-time displaying bid ranking.

(iii) "Reverse auctions come home to roost -- Allocation does little to dampen OEM enthusiasm for online tool" to Spencer Chin teaches that a global marketplace makes online procurement a feasible alternative to face-to-face negotiations.


Art Unit: 3625

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mila Airapetian whose telephone number is (571) 272-3202. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30 am - 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey A. Smith can be reached on (571) 272-6763. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MA


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